

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:)	Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
)	
EASTER et al.)	Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
)	
Serial No: 10/549,686)	<u>RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF</u>
)	<u>MISSING REQUIREMENTS AND</u>
Filing Date: 22 March 2004)	<u>SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT</u>
)	
Priority Date: 20 March 2003)	
)	
Atty File No.: 45568-00542)	
)	
For: "APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR)	
OSSICULAR FIXATION OF)	
IMPLANTABLE HEARING AID)	
ACTUATOR")	

MAIL STOP MISSING PARTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir or Madam:

In response to the Notification of Missing Requirements having a mailing date of April 27, 2006, in connection with the above-identified application, enclosed herewith please find an executed Declaration. Please note that the Assignment documents have been submitted to the Assignment Branch under separate cover on this same date.

Although Applicants do not believe that any fees are due based upon the filing of this Notification of Missing Requirements and Second Preliminary Amendment, please charge any such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1419.

Prior to the initial review of the above-identified patent application by the Examiner, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: